

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) A process of treating powder material by making it ride on gaseous current to move it within a powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21), wherein

a wall surface (21) against which the powder material collides is heated to not less than approximately a temperature at which the powder material commences to soften and to a temperature lower than a melting temperature of the powder material.

2. (Original) The process of treating powder material as set forth in claim 1, wherein the powder material has a tensile strength of not less than about 0.5 MPa.

3. (Currently amended) The process of treating powder material as set forth in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the powder material commences to soften at a temperature of not more than about 100 degrees C.

4. (Original) The process of treating powder material as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least 98 wt% of the powder material thrown into the powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21) is recovered as the powder material treated by this powder-material treating apparatus.

5. (Original) The process of treating powder material as set forth in claim 4, wherein at least 98 wt% of the powder material thrown into the powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21) is recovered as the treated powder material having about the same degree of crystallization as that of the pre-treated powder material.

6. (Original) The process of treating powder material as set forth in claim 4, wherein at least 98 wt% of the powder material thrown into the powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21) is recovered as the treated powder material having about the same average particle diameter as that of the pre-treated powder material.

7. **(Currently amended)** The process of treating powder material as set forth in ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein the powder material is a crystalline organic compound of any one of the pharmaceutical, food and cosmetic.

8. **(Currently amended)** The process of treating powder material as set forth in ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein the powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21) is any one of the powder-material crushing apparatus, powder-material transportation apparatus, powder-material collection apparatus and powder-material drying apparatus.

9. **(Original)** An apparatus for treating powder material which makes the powder material ride on gaseous current to move it, wherein a heating means (13, 29) is provided along a wall surface (12) against which the powder material collides so as to heat the wall surface (12) to not less than approximately a temperature at which the powder material commences to soften and to a temperature lower than a melting temperature of the powder material.

10. **(Original)** The apparatus for treating powder material as set forth in claim 9, wherein the heating means (13, 29) is formed from a jacket or a piping passage to which a heating medium is supplied.

11. **(Currently amended)** The apparatus for treating powder material as set forth in claim 9 ~~or 10~~, wherein the powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21) is any one of the powder-material crushing apparatus, powder-material transportation apparatus, powder-material collection apparatus and powder-material drying apparatus.

12. **(Original)** A method of producing powder material accompanied by a procedure for making the powder material ride on gaseous current to move it within a powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21), wherein

a wall surface that opposes to a powder-material moving space within the powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21) has a portion, to which the powder material easily adheres while it is being treated, heated to not less than approximately a temperature at

which the powder material commences to soften and to a temperature lower than a melting temperature of the powder material, and

pre-treated powder material is introduced into this powder-material moving space to make it ride on gaseous current to move it within this powder-material moving space.

13. (Original) The method of producing powder material as set forth in claim 12, which produces from pre-treated powder material of a crystalline powder material, a powder material having a degree of crystallization reduced at a ratio within 2.5% from that of the pre-treated crystalline powder material, by the movement of the powder material within the powder-material moving space.

14. (Original) The method of producing powder material as set forth in claim 12, which produces powder material having the content of total analogous substances and impurities increased at a ratio of less than 0.2 wt% when compared with the pre-treated powder material, by the movement of the powder material within the powder-material moving space.

15. (Original) The method of producing powder material as set forth in claim 12, which produces powder material having the average particle diameter increased at a ratio within 1.5 wt% when compared with that of the pre-treated powder material, by the movement of the powder material within the powder-material moving space.